

MEDICAL CONTROL GUIDELINE: MEDICATION ORDERS AND ADMINISTRATION

PRINCIPLES:

1. A complete and accurate medication order is essential for patient care.
2. Closed-loop communication (repeating orders back to the base hospital) reduces medication errors.

GUIDELINES:

1. Base Hospitals must provide complete medication orders to include:
 - a. Name of the medication
 - b. Dose (adults in mg and in pediatric patients mg and mL to be delivered)
 - c. Route of administration
 - i. Inhalation (IH)
 - ii. Intravenous (IV)
 - iii. Intravenous Piggy-Back (IVPB)
 - iv. Intramuscular (IM) – in a large muscle group; lateral thigh for pediatrics
 - v. Intranasal (IN)
 - vi. Intraosseous (IO)
 - vii. Orally Disintegrating Tablet (ODT)
 - viii. Per Os (PO)
 - ix. Sublingual (SL)
 - d. Frequency of administration, if applicable
2. Paramedics are to repeat complete orders back to the base hospital.
3. PRN orders should have indications for administration.